

## NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SESSION

## LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 187

Introduced by Bourne, 8

Read first time May 18, 2005

Committee:

PURPOSE: To evaluate the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services' compliance with the federal Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997 and Nebraska law with respect to the placement of children who are removed from their home. The federal act and Nebraska statutes sections 43-533 and 43-1312 direct that preference shall be given to a relative when determining placement of a child. The study shall include, but not be limited to, an examination of temporary and permanent placements initiated by the state, reviews conducted by the United States Department of Health and Human Services Children's Bureau and the Administration for Children and Families, methods utilized by the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to locate relatives for placement options, and past and pending court cases challenging placement of children outside of the family.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature shall be designated to conduct an interim study to carry out the purposes of this resolution.

2. That the committee shall upon the conclusion of its study make a report of its findings, together with its recommendations, to the Legislative Council or Legislature.